

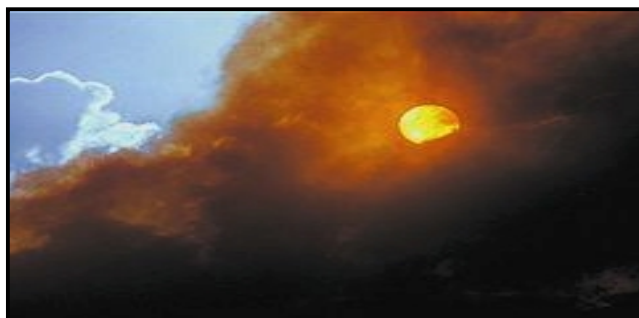
Los Alamos survives the challenge of fire

In the early evening of Wed. May 10th a wildfire in the surrounding Jemez Mountains swept down into our town causing terrible destruction. A number of people in our ICF&RP family lost their homes. Our sincere feelings of regret go out to them. By the time it was contained, the fire had consumed more than 48,000 acres making it the largest in New Mexico history.

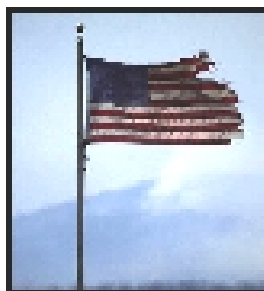


Within our program, the Target Fabrication Facility (TFF) and the Trident Laser were the most affected facilities. The TFF suffered smoke and ash damage, mostly to its ventilation and environment systems. Trident suffered no direct burn impact but had its environment systems damaged and with resulting condensation on and damage to optics. With the diligent and energetic work of groups MST-7 and P-24 and others in our program, these two important facilities are now fully operational again. During the hiatus at the TFF, Sandia graciously provided us with space at their facility to continue the process of assembling targets for upcoming experiments.

In other parts of the laboratory, the damage was modest with the exception of DX Division many of whose facilities are housed deep within wooded areas. Despite a two-week disruption, we are glad to report that the work of our program is back on track and moving at full tilt.



The Los Alamos area has pulled together in a truly touching way with neighbor helping neighbor in an inspiring community spirit.



We are happy to say that the strong and proud tradition of Los Alamos has survived this daunting challenge.